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ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA ALTOONA MSA BEAVER COUNTY PMSA ERIE MSA HARRISBURG-LEBANON-CARLISLE MSA JOHNSTOWN MSA LANCASTER MSA
PHILADELPHIA PMSA PITTSBURGH PMSA READING MSA SCRANTON /WILKES-BARRE MSA SHARON MSA STATE COLLEGE MSA WILLIAMSPORT MSA YORK MSA

ISSUED: June 1991

PENNSYLVANIA'S

LABOR FORCE

..... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

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MAY 1991 HIGHLIGHTS

- Pennsylvania's joblessness increased in May, as the statewide rate of unemployment rose to 7.7 percent, seasonally adjusted, from 7.1 percent in April.
- Nonfarm jobs increased by 24,500 in May to a total of 5,165,400. They were about 37,500 below their level of May 1990.

In April 1991 . . .

- Average weekly earnings of production workers in Pennsylvania manufacturing industries fell to $451.27, as a 0.2 hour drop from March in the average workweek offset a three cent gain in average hourly pay.
- The total number of initial claims rose from March. Weeks claimed in March also rose, but their average weekly volume dropped by about 4,000.
- Unadjusted unemployment rates fell in all but one of Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties.
- Twelve of Pennsylvania's fifteen major labor market areas had lower seasonally adjusted unemployment rates than in March .

Special Interest Topic: Short Time Compensation

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Robert P. Casey, Governor

Department of Labor and Industry Bureau of Research and Statistics

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Pennsylvania's Labor Force . . . A Monthly Statistical Analysis

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ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO:
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
LABOR AND INDUSTRY BUILDING
SEVENTH AND FORSTER STREETS
HARRISBURG, PA 17121
PHONE: (717) 787-6466

Inquiries can also be directed to Labor Market Analysts located throughout Pennsylvania.

The following is a list of Analysts and the counties they serve.

Analyst	Phone Number	Counties Served
Edward Murray	(215)560-1977 Philadelphia	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia Counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties in NJ
Kenneth Shockley	(215)378-4314 Reading	Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks Counties in PA; Warren County, NJ
James Mowad	(717)963-3443 Scranton	Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wyoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga
Fred Schneider Larry Baugher	(717)771-1272 York	Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Lancaster, Adams, York, Franklin, Fulton
Glenn Lynn	(717)327-3504 Williamsport	Centre, Lycoming, Potter, Juniata, Mifflin, Clinton, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union
William Findley Debra Nicholson	(814)533-2213 Johnstown	Blair, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Clearfield, Jefferson, Huntingdon, Elk, Cameron, Greene
William Ceriani Roberta Wilson	(412)565-5350 Pittsburgh	Beaver, Allegheny, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, Butler, Indiana, Armstrong, Lawrence
Carol Patterson	(814)871-4298 Erie	Erie, Mercer, McKean, Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren

CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

Unemployment in Pennsylvania Moved Higher in May as optimistic job seekers swelled the state's labor force to another all time high. Ironically, more people sought work in May, and left current jobs to look for work, even though fewer jobs were available.

Data, made available through the Current Population Survey of households and released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, show May's unemployment in Pennsylvania, adjusted for seasonality, up 36,000 to 459,000. The statewide seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment jumped to a recession high of 7.7 percent in May from 7.1 percent in April. Pennsylvania's rate is now up substantially in four out of five months during 1991 accumulating two full percentage points above December's 5.7 percent reading. The rate was 5.0 percent in May 1990, which means an over 50 percent jump in the rate of unemployment in just one year.

Most of May's increase was due to a large influx of entrants to the labor force, many of whom did not find jobs by the mid-week of May. A sizeable increase also occurred in the number of workers who voluntarily left their jobs. But they were nearly offset by a decline in the number of unemployed job losers over the month.

May's sizeable influx of entrants carried the state's labor force to another record high, after setting a high the previous month. The recent sharp increases in the labor force reflect considerable optimism among workers toward Pennsylvania's economy and potential job availability. This is echoed in the May increase in voluntary job leavers. Workers are generally much more cautious about quitting jobs during recession.

Many entrants, however, were not accommodated in May as employment, seasonally adjusted, fell 27,000 to 5,510,000. This was 112,000 below the year-earlier level and 165,000 below the all-time high of March 1989. These losses are mild when compared to past recessions which saw employment losses of three to four hundred thousand.

TABLE 1
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
IN PENNSYLVANIA
(All persons in thousands)

				NET CHANGE FROM	
RESIDENT DATA	MAY 1991	APR. 1991	MAY 1990	APR. 1991	MAY 1990
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,969	5,960	5,920	9	49
Employment	5,510	5,537	5,622	-27	-112
Unemployment	459	423	298	36	161
Rate of Unemployment (%)	7.7	7.1	5.0	0.6	2.7
UNADJUSTED DATA					
Civilian Labor Force	5,938	5,911	5,889	27	49
Employment	5,491	5,507	5,604	-16	-113
Unemployment	447	404	285	43	162
Rate of Unemployment (%)	7.5	6.8	4.8	0.7	2.7

UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

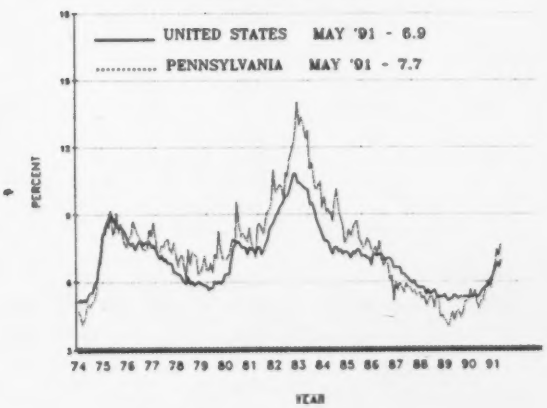

TABLE 2
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	MAY 1991 AP/	APR. 1991 P/	MAR. 1991	APR. 1990	NET CHANGE TO APR. 1991 FROM: MAR. 1991	APR. 1990
NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	5,165.4	5,140.9	5,123.0	5,167.0	17.9	-26.1
---GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,219.4	1,211.9	1,204.1	1,264.6	7.8	-52.7
MINING	26.7	26.3	25.9	27.5	0.4	-1.2
CONSTRUCTION	221.6	213.4	203.5	220.2	9.9	-6.8
MANUFACTURING	971.1	972.2	974.7	1,016.9	-2.5	-44.7
DURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	544.3	543.6	545.0	577.2	-1.4	-33.6
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS		28.3	28.3	31.4	0.0	-3.1
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES		17.9	18.0	20.0	-0.1	-2.1
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS		44.1	43.9	46.5	0.2	-2.4
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES		82.8	82.9	89.4	-0.1	-6.6
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS		83.4	84.0	88.7	-0.6	-5.3
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY		102.4	103.0	108.1	-0.6	-5.7
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		77.0	77.1	80.4	-0.1	-3.4
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT		49.7	49.4	52.8	0.3	-3.1
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PRODUCTS		38.0	38.5	39.3	-0.5	-1.3
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING		20.0	19.9	20.6	0.1	-0.6
NONDURABLE GOODS INDUSTRIES	426.8	428.6	429.7	439.7	-1.1	-11.1
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS		86.5	87.3	86.8	-0.8	-0.3
TOBACCO MANUFACTURES		1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
TEXTILE MILL PRODUCTS		26.5	26.5	28.5	0.0	-2.0
APPAREL AND OTHER TEXTILE PRODS.		66.8	67.2	71.9	-0.4	-5.1
PAPER AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		38.9	39.1	40.1	-0.2	-1.2
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING		84.6	84.6	85.6	0.0	-1.0
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS		62.3	62.3	62.1	0.0	0.2
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS		11.5	11.4	11.1	0.1	0.4
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS		41.8	41.7	42.7	0.1	-0.9
LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS		8.6	8.5	9.8	0.1	-1.2
---SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,940.2	3,928.5	3,918.4	3,901.3	10.1	27.2
TRANSPORTATION	164.6	163.8	163.0	160.2	0.8	3.6
PUBLIC UTILITIES	104.6	104.4	104.5	104.5	-0.1	-0.1
COMMUNICATIONS		51.2	51.0	49.7	0.2	1.5
ELECTRIC, GAS AND SANITARY		53.2	53.5	54.8	-0.3	-1.6
WHOLESALE TRADE	273.4	272.9	273.6	276.5	-0.7	-3.6
RETAIL TRADE	896.9	893.3	891.8	890.5	1.5	2.8
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES		115.8	117.5	115.5	-1.7	0.3
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	301.7	299.6	298.6	298.4	1.0	1.2
FINANCE		140.6	140.5	142.2	0.1	-1.6
INSURANCE		117.4	117.4	115.6	0.0	1.8
REAL ESTATE		41.6	40.7	40.6	0.9	1.0
SERVICES	1,483.4	1,476.9	1,467.9	1,443.7	9.0	33.2
BUSINESS SERVICES		208.4	209.7	207.1	-1.3	1.3
HEALTH SERVICES		484.3	482.8	468.1	1.5	16.2
HOSPITALS		260.3	259.9	251.5	0.4	8.8
LEGAL SERVICES		42.8	42.7	41.4	0.1	1.4
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES		171.4	171.8	167.2	-0.4	4.2
SOCIAL SERVICES		108.1	107.8	102.5	0.3	5.6
OTHER SERVICES		461.9	453.1	457.4	8.8	4.5
GOVERNMENT	715.6	717.6	719.0	727.5	-1.4	-9.9
FEDERAL		135.7	135.7	147.3	0.0	-11.6
STATE		160.3	160.6	160.5	-0.3	-0.2
LOCAL		421.6	422.7	419.7	-1.1	1.9
---PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	5.8	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.0	-0.6

AP/= Advance preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/= Preliminary data

Jobs Climbed for the Third Month in May, according to advanced preliminary data from the monthly survey of employer payrolls. Nonagricultural wage and salary jobs in Pennsylvania advanced by 24,500 from April to 5,165,400 in May, but were still 37,500 under the year-ago level.

Goods-producing jobs rose from April by 7,500 to 1,219,400 as gains in construction, mining and durable goods manufacturing were partly offset by losses in nondurables; all these divisions shared in the sector's 58,800 loss from May 1990, especially hard goods lines. Service-producing jobs increased by 11,700 from April 1991 and 17,100 from May 1990 to 3,940,200 this May. April's rise in this sector was tempered by the exclusion of 5,000 persons involved in a labor dispute in retail trade.

Pennsylvania's Employers Provided 5,140,900 Jobs in April, an increase of 17,900 from March.

While the March - to - April gain in nonagricultural wage and salary jobs looks good at first glance, it represents only 30 percent of the normal seasonal gain. Both the goods-producing and the service-producing sectors failed to provide their normal share of new April jobs. Goods-producing industries added only about 40 percent of their typical job gain while the service-producing segment added about one-fourth of its expected new jobs. It is quite obvious that the recession has yet to loosen its grip on Pennsylvania's economy. Reflecting this fact, the April job count was down 26,100 from April 1990.

The monthly non-farm job count excludes farm workers, the self-employed, domestic workers and unpaid family workers.

Goods-producing jobs, at 1,211,900 in April, were up 7,800 on the strength of a 9,900 increase in construction jobs. Construction's gain, however, represented only about two-thirds of what is usually the strongest monthly advance of the year. Tightness in the banking industry and mortgage loans continues to restrict construction activity. An increase of 400 mining jobs from March also contributed to the overall goods-producing upswing, but a loss of 2,500 manufacturing jobs, when a gain of that number is expected, reduced the net growth. Compared to April 1990, this year's goods-producing job count is down 52,700.

Manufacturing jobs were estimated at a record low of 972,200 in April. Both durable and nondurable goods industries contributed to the downturn. A substantial upturn in durable goods jobs is normal in April while a small loss is the norm for nondurables. A large portion of the durable goods loss was centered in industries normally associated with capital goods. As the recession stretches on with its incipient shrinking of the bottom line, many firms are unwilling or unable to make further capital expenditures. This translates directly into job losses for durable goods producers. Factory jobs were down 44,700 over the year; three-fourths of the loss was in durable goods.

Service-producing industries provided 3,928,500 jobs in April, up 10,100 from March. While this increase was not as great as expected, it still placed the job level at the highest April ever. The service industry, up 9,000 to an all-time high, was the big gainer despite adding only half its normal new jobs. Reflecting the problems induced by the current recession, business services lost 1,300 jobs from March. Also, consumers continued to avoid or limit spending, leading to a drop of 700 wholesale trade jobs and a relatively small gain of 1,500 retail trade jobs. Department stores, which lost 1,600 jobs over the month, continue to be especially hard hit. Compared to April 1990, this April's service-producing job level is up 27,200. This represents a greatly reduced rate of growth due to dismal performances from wholesale and retail trades.

EMPLOYERS

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PENNSYLVANIA WAGE & SALARY JOBS
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

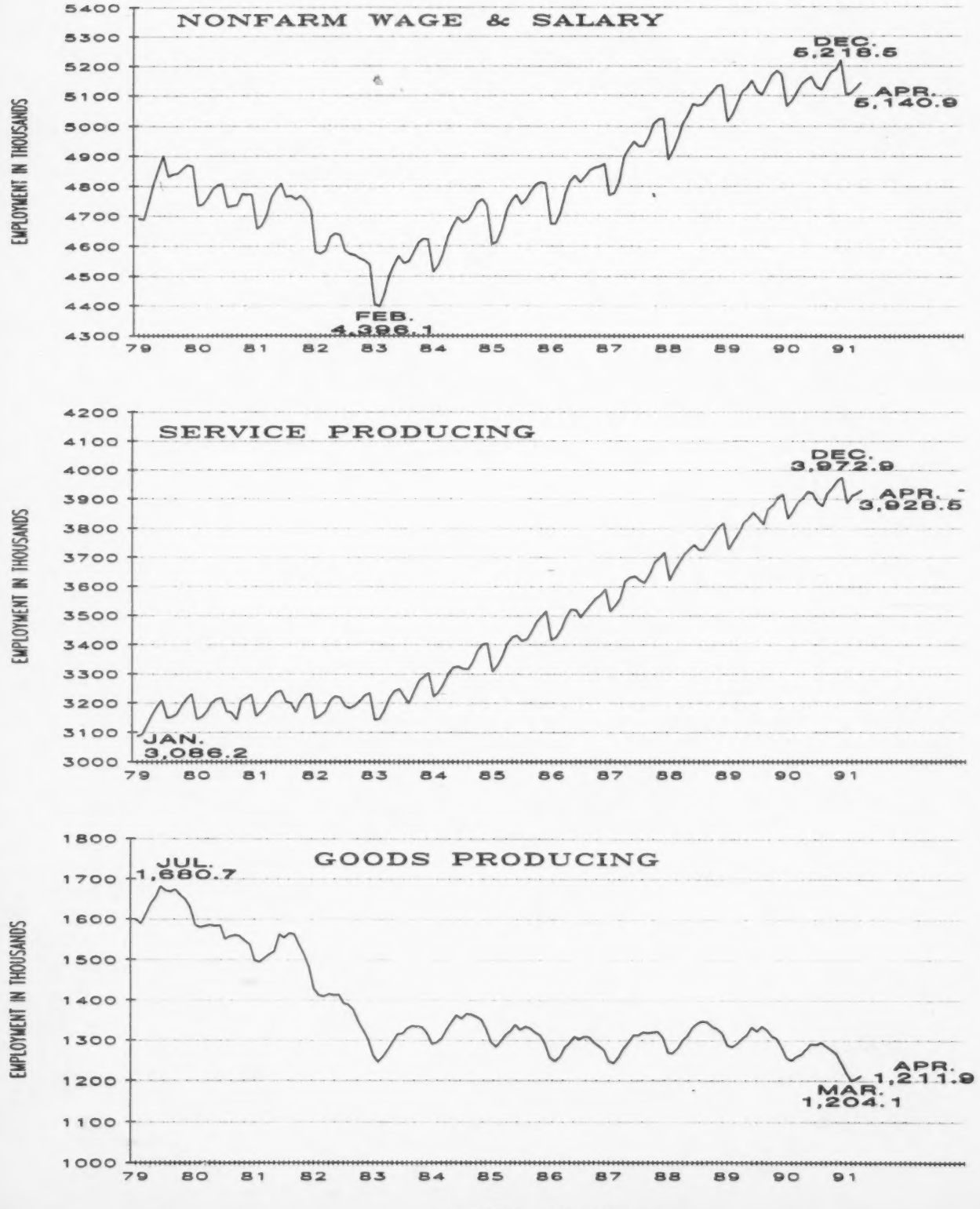


TABLE 3
PENNSYLVANIA HOURS AND EARNINGS
OF MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS
(Not seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

INDUSTRY TITLE	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	APR. 1991 P/	MAR. 1991	APR. 1990	APR. 1991 P/	MAR. 1991	APR. 1990	APR. 1991 P/	MAR. 1991	APR. 1990
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COAL MINING	$712.97	$740.81	$709.49	43.5	44.6	43.5	$16.39	$16.61	$16.31
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	525.10	509.33	487.45	45.9	44.6	43.6	11.44	11.42	11.18
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	451.27	452.33	433.42	39.9	40.1	39.8	11.31	11.28	10.89
DURABLE GOODS	488.35	489.50	470.68	40.9	41.1	41.0	11.94	11.91	11.48
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS	365.37	350.25	353.47	38.5	37.5	38.8	9.49	9.34	9.11
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES	380.60	379.25	345.04	39.4	39.3	38.0	9.66	9.65	9.08
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODS.	489.98	480.52	481.37	41.7	41.0	42.3	11.75	11.72	11.38
PRIMARY METALS	544.59	551.56	550.67	40.4	41.1	42.1	13.48	13.42	13.08
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	454.72	453.29	435.51	40.6	40.8	40.4	11.20	11.11	10.78
INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY	515.43	522.91	497.06	41.4	41.9	41.7	12.45	12.48	11.92
ELECTRIC AND ELECTRONIC MACH.	462.73	471.49	455.82	41.5	42.4	42.6	11.15	11.12	10.70
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	574.75	578.76	530.27	41.8	42.0	39.9	13.75	13.78	13.29
INSTRUMENTS AND RELATED PROD.	479.16	473.55	442.00	41.2	41.0	40.0	11.63	11.55	11.05
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES	453.29	446.80	402.82	40.4	40.0	38.4	11.22	11.17	10.49
NONDURABLE GOODS	407.01	406.89	384.29	38.8	38.9	38.2	10.49	10.46	10.06
FOOD AND KINDRED PRODUCTS	439.31	436.79	423.65	39.4	39.6	39.3	11.15	11.03	10.78
TOBACCO PRODUCTS	274.04	273.36	249.38	40.3	40.2	37.9	6.80	6.80	6.58
TEXTILE PRODUCTS	308.01	301.99	298.65	37.7	37.1	37.9	8.17	8.14	7.88
APPAREL AND RELATED PRODUCTS	242.90	239.43	223.09	34.7	34.6	33.1	7.00	6.92	6.74
PAPER PRODUCTS	501.34	496.10	492.35	42.2	41.9	43.0	11.88	11.84	11.45
PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	440.02	457.47	434.32	37.9	39.0	37.8	11.61	11.73	11.49
CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS	559.28	558.95	538.61	41.8	41.9	41.4	13.38	13.34	13.01
PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS	734.40	772.16	655.98	45.7	46.6	43.5	16.07	16.57	15.08
RUBBER AND PLASTICS PRODUCTS	409.85	410.64	379.37	40.6	40.9	39.6	10.09	10.04	9.58
LEATHER PRODUCTS	283.32	276.01	260.52	36.7	36.9	38.2	7.72	7.48	6.82
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
COMMUNICATIONS	581.74	575.23	560.44	38.5	38.4	40.7	15.11	14.98	13.77
ELECTRIC, GAS, & SANITARY	729.31	715.70	682.02	42.6	42.1	42.1	17.12	17.00	16.20

P/ = Preliminary Data

Production Workers in Pennsylvania's Factories Averaged Less Than 40 Hours during the middle week of April. This is the second month of a sub-forty hour average workweek in 1991, since that of January. At 39.9 hours, the April average workweek was down 0.2 of an hour from March.

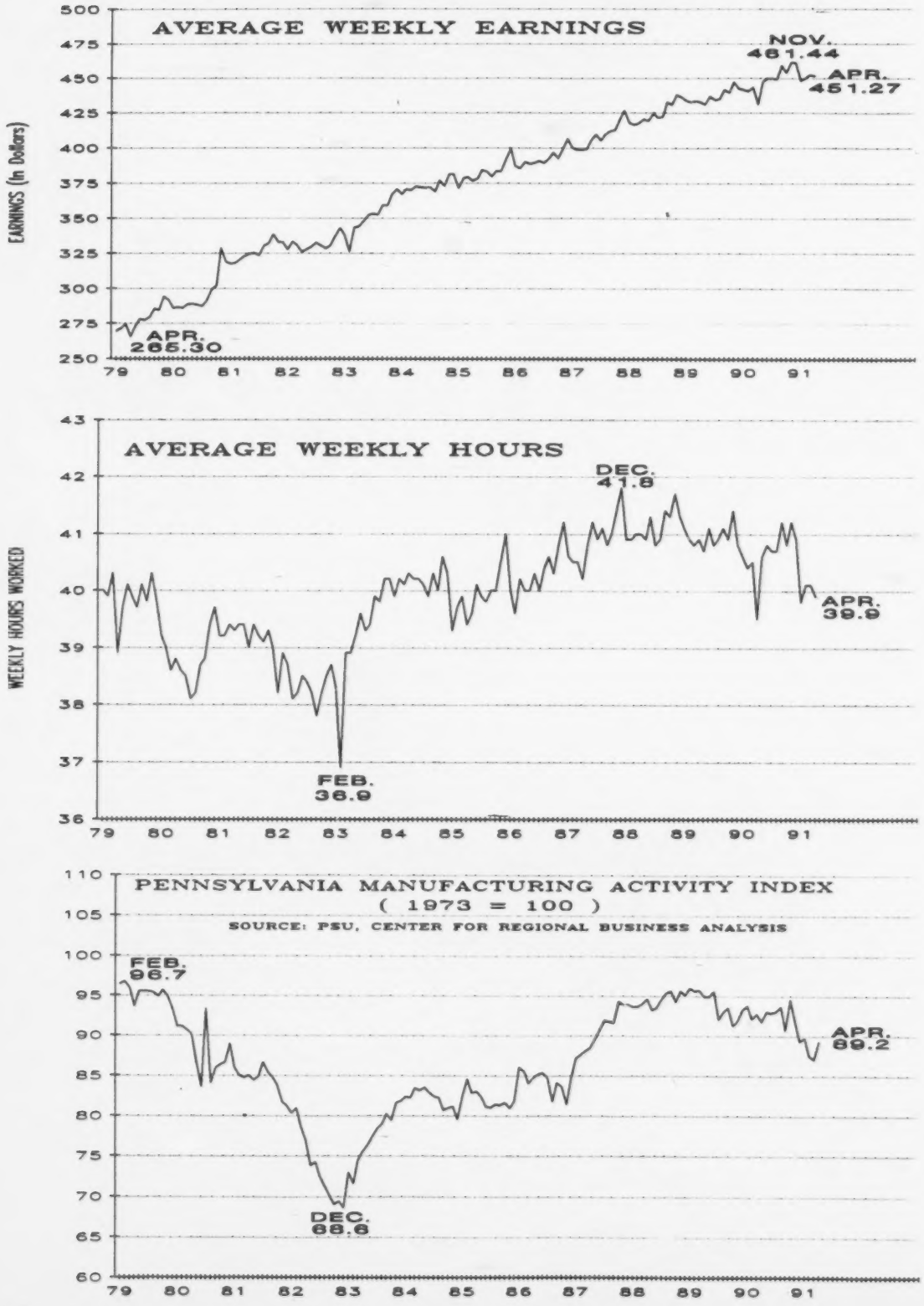
Despite this drop, workweeks and jobs have been holding up relatively well compared with the last four recessions when average factory workweeks fell below 39 hours and jobs fell substantially.

As the net result of the shorter workweek and 3-cent rise in average hourly earnings, April's average weekly earnings of $451.27 in manufacturing dropped $1.06 from March, but were $17.85 higher than a year earlier.

Five of the ten durable goods industries worked shorter workweeks in April than in March. They are generally more involved with capital goods than the five which had longer April workweeks. Capital goods producers have been hard hit in recent weeks because many firms are unable or unwilling to further invest when profits are down. The largest loss, 0.9 of an hour, was in electric and electronic machinery. The largest gain, 1.0 hour, was in the lumber and wood products industry as anticipation of demand for new housing increased as interest rates dropped.

Six of the ten nondurable goods industries worked shorter average April workweeks than for March. The sharpest decrease in hours, 1.1 hours, occurred in printing and publishing as commercial printers lost customers to the bite of the recession. Textiles, up 0.6 of an hour, recorded the largest over-the-month gain in its workweek.

PENNSYLVANIA HOURS & EARNINGS
FOR MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION WORKERS



UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

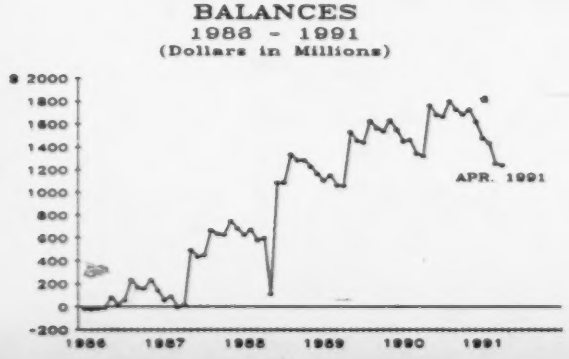
TABLE 4
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION REGULAR PROGRAM
(Not seasonally adjusted)

	APR. 1991	MAR. 1991	APR. 1990	NET CHANGE FROM MAR. 91	NET CHANGE FROM APR. 90
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	115,010	109,651	88,941	5,359	26,069
Weeks Claimed	1,022,139	993,461	642,605	28,678	379,534
...Average Weekly Volume	232,304	236,538	153,001	-4,234	79,303
Insured Unemployment Rate	4.8%	4.9%	3.1%	-0.1	1.7
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	43,468	48,880	31,626	-5,412	11,842
Final Payments	12,952	11,193	8,594	1,759	4,358
Weeks Paid	865,439	952,117	571,308	-86,678	294,131
Net Benefit Amount	$159,253,263	$175,477,451	$98,923,379	-$16,224,188	$60,329,884
Average Check	$184.01	$184.30	$173.15	-$0.29	$10.86

Initial Claims Rose in April by 5,359, following two months of decline. The increase reflected mainly the 22 workdays this April compared with 21 in March. The 115,010 April total was 26,000 above that of April 1990, marking the twenty-fourth consecutive month of over-the-year increases. Weeks claimed also turned upward, by 28,678 from March to 1,022,139 in April and were 379,534 or 59 percent more than in April 1990. The average weekly volume of weeks claimed, however, fell by 4,234 from March to 232,304 in April, lowering the insured unemployment rate 0.1 percentage point to 4.8 percent. This was 1.7 percentage points above April 1990 and the highest April rate since 1983 when it was 6.9 percent.

The average check was down 29 cents from March, the second successive monthly drop. Weeks paid declined by 86,678 or 9 percent, the steepest month-to-month drop in seven months. The lower average check and the dip in weeks paid resulted in a $16 million drop in the net benefit amount from March. The $159 million benefit total this April, however, was $60 million more than a year ago. Income of $145 million to the Unemployment Trust Fund during April, although highest for April in five years, was not enough to offset disbursements. As a result, cash reserves in the fund slipped to $1.2 billion at the end of April, $81 million lower than a year before.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACTIVITY



APRIL 1991		
Income	$	145,012,959
Disbursements	$	159,245,522
Cash Reserves	$	1,241,131,333

UNEMPLOYMENT ... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

Sixty-six of Pennsylvania's 67 Counties had Lower Unemployment Rates in April than in March. Only Mifflin County, up 0.6 percentage point to 12.5 percent due to temporary manufacturing shutdowns, had a higher April rate. Although county unemployment rates (unadjusted for seasonality) are usually lower in April than in March, the volume of these rate decreases significantly exceeded the seasonal norm. Reflecting this fact, the statewide seasonally adjusted rate was down 0.3 percentage point over the month, indicating a greater than seasonal decrease and a potential bottoming of the current recession.

Chester County, down 0.6 percentage point to 4.2 percent, had the lowest county rate for the ninth straight month. Clinton County, down 1.4 percentage points to 12.7 percent, replaced Huntingdon as the county with the highest. Wayne County had the largest over-the-month rate decrease -- 2.8 percentage points. Both agriculture and the resort industry, important in Wayne County's economy, historically pick up in April.

Generally, the counties east of the Susquehanna River and its north branch have fared better than those to the west. Twenty-six of the highest 35 April unemployment rates, including 10 of the highest 11, were in counties to the west this line.

All counties except Juniata and Clarion had higher April rates in 1991 than in 1990. Juniata County, at 11.6 percent, was down 2.1 percentage points as the result of gains in both the goods-producing and service-producing sectors. Clarion County recorded a rate decrease of 0.4 percentage point to 9.6 percent.

TABLE 5
PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES RANKED BY RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT
(Not seasonally adjusted)
APRIL 1991

COUNTY	APRIL 1991 (Prel.) RANK	RATE	VOLUME	MAR. RATE	DIFF
Chester	1	4.2	8,400	4.8	-0.6
Cumberland	2	4.5	4,900	5.0	-0.5
Montgomery	3	4.8	18,500	5.3	-0.5
Allegheny	4	5.1	33,300	5.7	-0.6
Delaware	4	5.1	14,700	5.4	-0.3
Lancaster	4	5.1	11,700	5.9	-0.8
Adams	7	5.5	2,200	7.1	-1.6
Dauphin	7	5.5	7,400	5.7	-0.2
Montour	9	5.8	500	8.5	-2.7
Centre	10	6.0	4,100	6.3	-0.3
York	11	6.4	11,900	6.8	-0.4
Butler	12	6.5	5,000	7.7	-1.2
Lehigh	12	6.5	9,900	6.9	-0.4
Lebanon	14	6.6	4,300	7.2	-0.6
Warren	14	6.6	1,500	6.8	-0.2
Franklin	16	6.8	4,100	7.6	-0.8
Washington	16	6.8	6,400	7.9	-1.1
Westmoreland	16	6.8	12,000	7.9	-1.1
Bucks	19	6.9	20,900	7.5	-0.6
Erie	19	6.9	9,400	7.7	-0.8
Northampton	19	6.9	8,200	7.7	-0.8
Bradford	22	7.0	2,200	7.9	-0.9
Berks	23	7.2	12,700	7.8	-0.6
Snyder	24	7.4	1,400	9.1	-1.7
Lawrence	25	7.5	3,600	8.2	-0.7
Mercer	26	7.6	4,000	8.3	-0.7
Venango	26	7.6	1,900	8.8	-1.2
Lackawanna	28	7.8	8,600	8.2	-0.4
Philadelphia	28	7.8	57,400	8.0	-0.2
Wyoming	28	7.8	1,000	9.7	-1.9
Perry	31	7.9	1,700	8.8	-0.9
Luzerne	32	8.1	13,000	9.1	-1.0
McKean	33	8.2	1,700	8.5	-0.3
Union	33	8.2	1,400	9.1	-0.9
Cameron	35	8.5	200	11.1	-2.6
Lycoming	36	8.6	5,200	9.6	-1.0
Tioga	36	8.6	1,700	10.3	-1.7
Columbia	38	8.7	2,800	9.6	-0.9
Beaver	39	9.0	5,400	10.9	-1.9
Blair	39	9.0	5,600	10.3	-1.3
Cambria	41	9.1	5,900	10.7	-1.6
Crawford	42	9.4	3,800	11.0	-1.6
Somerset	42	9.4	3,100	11.9	-2.5
Pike	44	9.5	1,200	10.6	-1.1
Clarion	45	9.6	1,700	12.1	-2.5
Elk	45	9.6	1,700	10.0	-0.4
Jefferson	45	9.6	1,900	10.9	-1.3
Monroe	45	9.6	4,900	10.9	-1.3
Northumberland	45	9.6	4,700	11.2	-1.6
Schuylkill	50	9.7	7,000	11.0	-1.3
Wayne	50	9.7	2,000	12.5	-2.8
Armstrong	52	9.8	2,800	11.2	-1.4
Fayette	52	9.8	5,900	10.8	-1.0
Fulton	52	9.8	600	12.3	-2.5
Susquehanna	52	9.8	1,800	11.4	-1.6
Carbon	56	10.0	2,600	11.3	-1.3
Bedford	57	10.1	2,300	12.4	-2.3
Potter	57	10.1	800	10.8	-0.7
Indiana	59	10.6	3,800	11.8	-1.2
Greene	60	10.7	1,400	12.1	-1.4
Forest	61	10.8	200	12.7	-1.9
Sullivan	62	11.0	400	11.2	-0.2
Juniata	63	11.6	1,200	12.5	-0.9
Clearfield	64	11.8	4,100	13.0	-1.2
Huntingdon	65	12.5	2,500	14.2	-1.7
Mifflin	65	12.5	2,800	11.9	0.6
Clinton	67	12.7	2,000	14.1	-1.4

PENNSYLVANIA'S LABOR MARKET AREAS

TABLE 6
TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME AND RATE
BY MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA IN PENNSYLVANIA
(Seasonally adjusted, number in thousands)

AREA	APRIL 1991 * UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	APRIL 1991 * UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	MARCH 1991 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	MARCH 1991 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%	APRIL 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBER	APRIL 1990 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE%
UNITED STATES	8,274.0	6.6	8,572.0	6.8	6,691.0	5.4
PENNSYLVANIA	423.0	7.1	433.0	7.4	335.0	5.6
LABOR MARKET AREA						
ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA	23.9	7.0	24.6	7.3	19.5	5.8
ALTOONA MSA	5.9	9.4	6.3	10.2	4.9	7.8
BEAVER COUNTY PMSA	5.8	9.6	6.3	10.5	5.1	8.4
ERIE MSA	9.5	7.0	9.7	7.2	7.5	5.6
HARRISBURG-LEB-CARLISLE MSA	19.6	5.8	19.2	5.8	14.5	4.4
JOHNSTOWN MSA	9.7	9.8	10.4	10.5	8.2	8.3
LANCASTER MSA	12.8	5.6	13.4	5.9	9.4	4.1
PHILADELPHIA PMSA	156.8	6.4	157.9	6.5	116.3	4.7
PITTSBURGH PMSA	59.1	5.9	61.4	6.2	50.9	5.1
READING MSA	12.5	7.1	12.7	7.4	9.1	5.1
SCRANTON--WILKES-BARRE MSA	31.4	8.5	32.3	8.9	25.8	7.0
SHARON MSA	4.1	7.8	4.0	7.6	3.5	6.7
STATE COLLEGE MSA	4.5	6.6	4.3	6.4	3.7	5.4
WILLIAMSPORT MSA	5.2	8.6	5.5	9.2	4.5	7.4
YORK MSA	14.6	6.4	14.7	6.6	11.7	5.2

*Preliminary data

Twelve of Pennsylvania's 15 Major Labor Market Areas had Lower Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates in April than in March. Only the Sharon and State College Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), each up 0.2 of a percentage point, had higher April rates. In both areas, the local economy was unable to create enough new jobs to absorb all labor force entrants.

The highest seasonally adjusted April rates were 9.8 percent in the Johnstown MSA and 9.6 percent in the Beaver County Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA). These two areas continue to suffer the lingering effects of the 1981-82 recession which crippled the primary steel industry; until their economies are able to further diversify, they will continue to experience high unemployment rates. The lowest April rate was 5.6 percent in the Lancaster MSA, which historically has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state as the result of a very robust and diversified economy. The Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle MSA, anchored by the state capital, had the second lowest rate at 5.8 percent.

Once again, all 15 major labor market areas had higher unemployment rates in April than they did one year earlier. The Reading MSA, up 2.0 percentage points to 7.1 percent, recorded the largest over-the-year increase, while the Pittsburgh PMSA, which made significant progress in its attempt to diversify after the last recession, had the lowest year-to-year gain--up 0.8 percentage point to 5.9 percent.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

TABLE 7
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION
APRIL 1991 --- PRELIMINARY
(DATA NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, VOLUME IN THOUSANDS)

SDA NO.	COUNTIES	LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMP.	RATE(%)
01	Erie	135.1	125.7	9.4	6.9
02	Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren	108.0	98.9	9.1	8.5
03	City of Pittsburgh	172.5	163.9	8.7	5.0
04	Allegheny County minus City of Pittsburgh	486.2	461.5	24.7	5.1
05	Beaver	59.6	54.2	5.4	9.0
06	Armstrong, Butler, Indiana	141.2	129.6	11.6	8.2
07	Fayette, Westmoreland	236.1	218.2	17.8	7.6
08	Greene, Washington	107.2	99.4	7.8	7.3
09	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	104.5	94.0	10.5	10.1
10	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset	207.9	188.0	19.9	9.6
11	Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Snyder, Union	235.4	215.8	19.7	8.4
13	Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming	86.1	79.0	7.1	8.2
14	Lackawanna	109.7	101.1	8.6	7.8
15	Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne	110.3	99.6	10.7	9.7
16	Luzerne, Schuylkill	232.7	212.7	20.0	8.6
17	Philadelphia	736.9	679.5	57.4	7.8
18	Bucks	304.1	283.2	20.9	6.9
19	Montgomery	388.3	369.8	18.5	4.8
20	Delaware	291.0	276.3	14.7	5.1
21	Chester	199.7	191.3	8.4	4.2
22	Lehigh, Northampton	271.1	253.0	18.1	6.7
23	Berks	176.4	163.7	12.7	7.2
24	Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry	341.3	321.8	19.5	5.7
25	Lancaster	227.8	216.1	11.7	5.1
26	York	184.7	172.8	11.9	6.4
27	Adams, Franklin	99.8	93.6	6.3	6.3
28	Lawrence, Mercer	100.4	92.8	7.6	7.6
29	Montour, Northumberland	56.9	51.8	5.2	9.1
PENNSYLVANIA - TOTAL		**5911.0**	**5507.0**	**404.0**	**6.8**

A Service Delivery Area is a geographical planning region defined by the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPIC

SHORT TIME COMPENSATION/WORKSHARING

Short time compensation (STC), also known as worksharing, is a voluntary program which offers an alternative to layoffs for employers who experience temporary declines in business activity. Under STC, an employer forced to reduce costs can opt to reduce the hours of part or all of his work force in lieu of selected full layoffs. An employe's weekly wage reduction under STC is replaced by a proportionate amount of the employe's full weekly entitlement to unemployment compensation benefits. For example, an employe whose work hours are reduced by 20 percent would receive 20 percent of full unemployment compensation benefits under layoff conditions.

The STC provides an employer the flexibility to be more responsive to changing economic conditions by matching production hours to demand without requiring the drastic reduction of the work force. This allows employers to retain trained, skilled employes who are in place and ready to increase production when business conditions improve, thus avoiding the potential cost of recruiting and training new employes. Employes, on the other hand, are provided improved job security, the continued utilization of their job skills, and the potential retention of fringe benefits such as health care. Providing the STC program can prevent full layoffs and reduce social costs to the community by diminishing economic losses, through maintaining the work force and wages at a higher level and preventing payments for long-term assistance programs such as unemployment compensation.

Fourteen states have STC programs: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Oregon, Texas, Vermont and Washington. As an example, since the January 1986 inception of the New York program, 651 worksharing plans have been approved which involved the participation of almost 15,000 workers; layoffs were averted for almost 5,000 workers, with estimated savings to the New York Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund of almost $4 million. The New York program pays up to 20 weeks of worksharing benefits; 12 other states pay up to 26 weeks, and one state (Massachusetts) up to 30 weeks.

A worksharing program for Pennsylvania is currently an issue being debated by the state's General Assembly. The Labor Relations Committee of the state's House of Representatives is currently studying two worksharing bills introduced in April and May of this year.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Research & Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1987) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by number of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by average annual covered employment. Average annual covered employment is estimated until six months after year's end due to a lag in reporting covered employment.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employe contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Administration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

Cash Reserves - Amount of funds available in the State's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits.

LMI ALERT

PENNSYLVANIA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

June 1991

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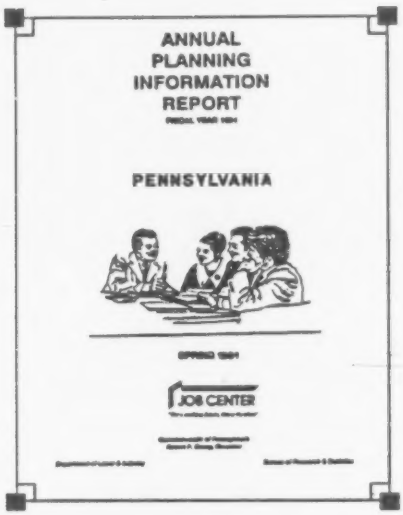

Provides current and historical trends and analysis of employment and unemployment, as well as projections of the number and characteristics of the population, labor force, economically disadvantaged, and the unemployed.

The Bureau of Research and Statistics collects, analyzes and distributes labor market information for Pennsylvania and sub-state areas.

For additional information, inquiries should be made to your local Labor Market Analyst listed on the inside front cover or:

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